

### Worksheet: Comparing Colleges

**U**se a pencil to fill in the worksheet on the next page with information about colleges you like. Refer to pages 12-13 for useful Web sites and resources. Or visit your school counselor. They may have college catalogs, view books, or other resources to help you. Also, bring this worksheet with you when you go to college nights or fairs. Ask questions and fill in the information as you look around.

Remember, the type of college training you need depends on the job or career you want. But the specific college you choose will depend on things like: cost, location, academic programs, financial aid, and entrance requirements (GPA, test scores, etc.). College information does change over time. So, review this information often and make changes as needed.

“<sup>A</sup> Good  
decision  
is based  
on knowledge  
and not on  
numbers.”

—Plato



	ACADEMICS	STUDENT LIFE	COST	FINANCIAL AID	ADMISSIONS ATHLETICS & PERFORMING ARTS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How many students graduate from the school or major in four or five years?</li> <li>What is the academic support program like: study halls, tutoring, faculty hours, etc.</li> <li>What is the average class size?</li> <li>What is the ratio of professors to students?</li> <li>Who teaches most undergraduate classes? Graduate students or full professors?</li> <li>Does the school offer the majors that interest you?</li> <li>Is your preferred major highly ranked, popular, or unique?</li> <li>When is the best time to declare your major? (Some majors only admit freshmen)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the college in a big city or small town? (Small towns can be more close-knit; big cities can have more activities)</li> <li>What size town or school do you want?</li> <li>How close is a movie theatre, mall, bus stop, train station, or airport? Do you care?</li> <li>How diverse is the campus, ethnically, geographically, and politically?</li> <li>What are the major hangouts and campus activities?</li> <li>Does the campus have groups or clubs that interest you?</li> <li>What do current and former students have to say about the school?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are the tuition and fees charged for one semester, quarter, or year?</li> <li>What can you expect to spend on books and housing?</li> <li>How expensive is the location? (Big cities can be more expensive than small towns)</li> <li>Are there any special fees for classes in your major? (Many science and art classes have lab fees)</li> <li>Are tuition and fee waivers available?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What percent of students get financial aid?</li> <li>How much aid do students usually get?</li> <li>What are the financial aid deadlines?</li> <li>What scholarships does the school/department offer?</li> <li>What are the scholarship deadlines?</li> <li>How long does a 'full scholarship' last and what does it cover?</li> <li>Can you lose your scholarship? If so, how?</li> <li>What are the requirements for getting aid?</li> <li>How many students apply?</li> <li>How many students get in?</li> <li>Can I get an application fee waiver?</li> <li>What tests are required?</li> <li>Is credit given for AP® or IB® exams or for Running Start or Tech Prep Classes?</li> <li>What AP® or IB® scores are considered acceptable?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How many student athletes in your sport graduate in four or five years?</li> <li>How many hours per week do student performers practice?</li> <li>Are there any voluntary or optional practices that most performers or athletes attend?</li> <li>What kind of health or injury insurance do athletes get?</li> <li>Are athletes covered by insurance during off-season voluntary practices?</li> <li>How long is the off-season?</li> <li>Who is competing for your position?</li> <li>When does the department head or coach's contract end?</li> <li>Are there any majors that coaches encourage or discourage because of scheduling conflicts?</li> <li>If you get a scholarship, do you keep it if you get injured?</li> <li>What is the coach's or bandleader's leadership style like? How does he/she treat students?</li> </ul>
COLLEGE #1					
COLLEGE #2					
COLLEGE #3					